

# EVOLUTIONARY ACQUISITION & THE FUTURE OF ESC

Colonel Thomas W. Mahler, Jr.  
Director, Acquisition Development Office  
13 November 1997

“...enhanced command & control, and much improved intelligence, along with other applications of new technology, will transform the traditional functions of maneuver, strike, protection and logistics. These transformations will be so powerful that they become, in effect, new operational concepts.”

**--Joint Vision 2010**

## Air Force Goal

The ability to collect information, rapidly correlate it, and then quickly disseminate it to the users and commanders promises to change the nature of warfare. As we look into the first quarter of the 21st century, we believe that we will have the ability to find, fix, track, and target anything of significance that either moves or is located on the face of the earth in near real time.”

General Ronald Fogleman

INTEL  
SUPPORT

MISSION  
SUPPORT

SPECIAL  
OPERATIONS

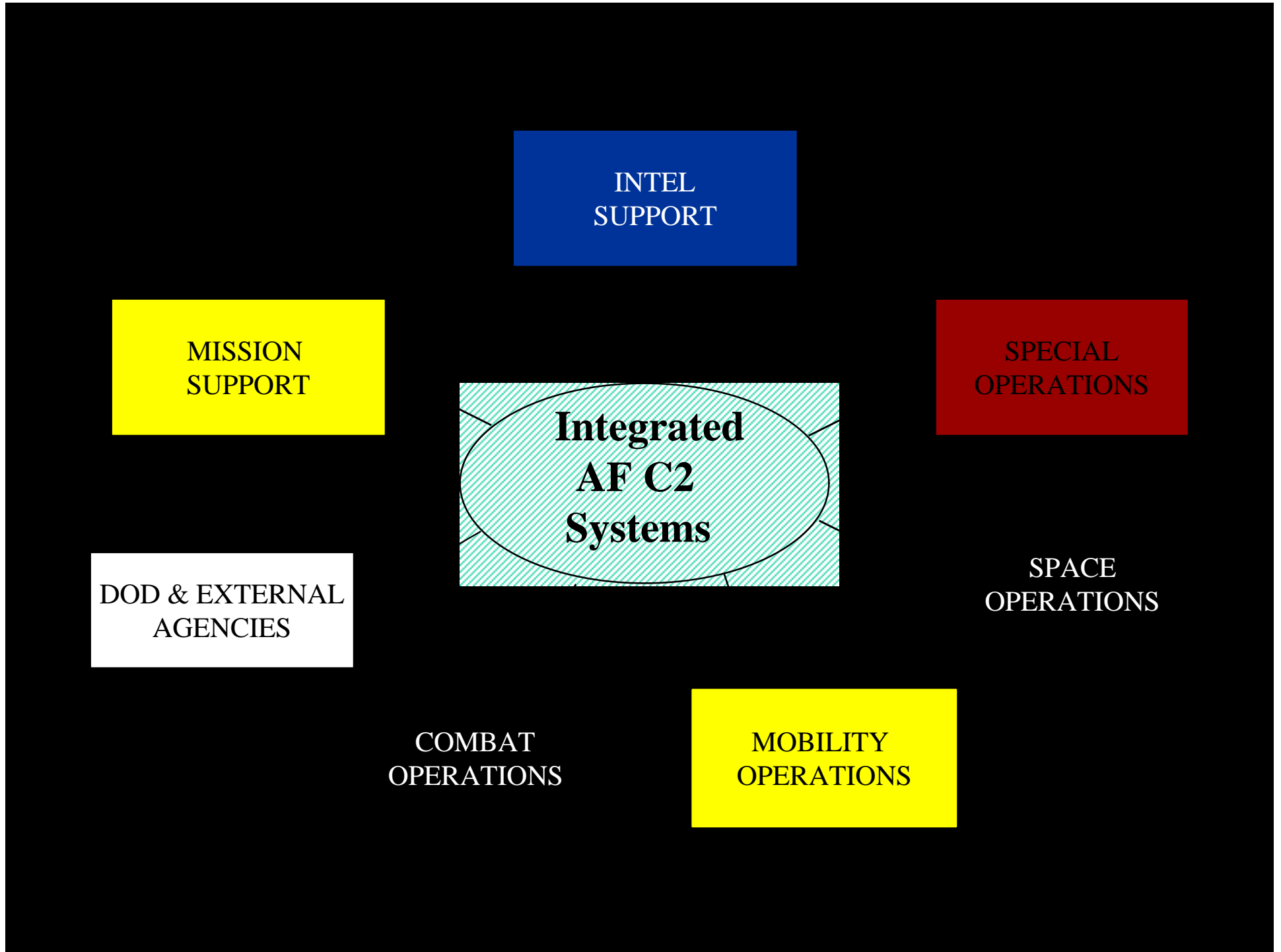
**Integrated  
AF C2  
Systems**

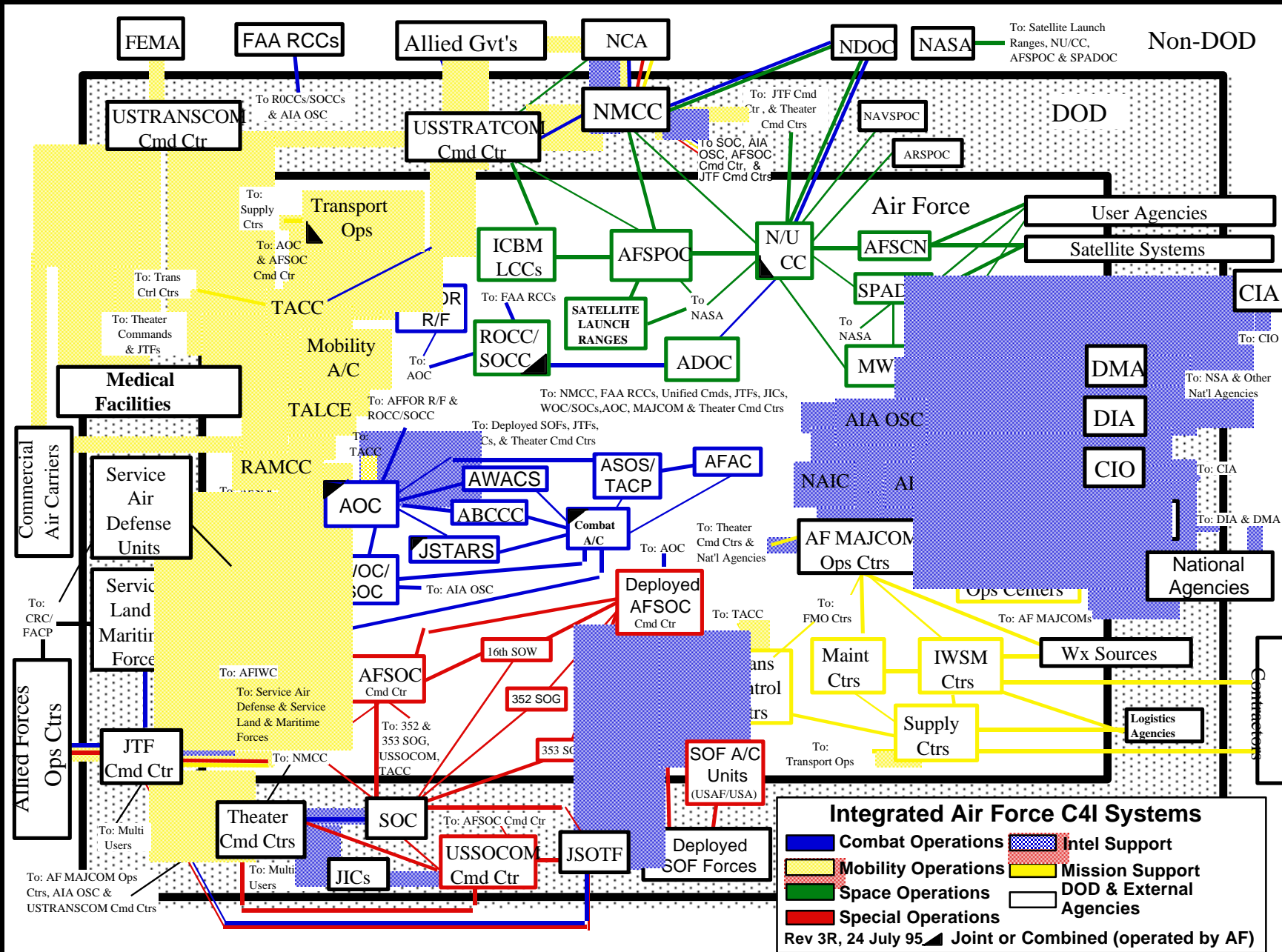
DOD & EXTERNAL  
AGENCIES

SPACE  
OPERATIONS

COMBAT  
OPERATIONS

MOBILITY  
OPERATIONS

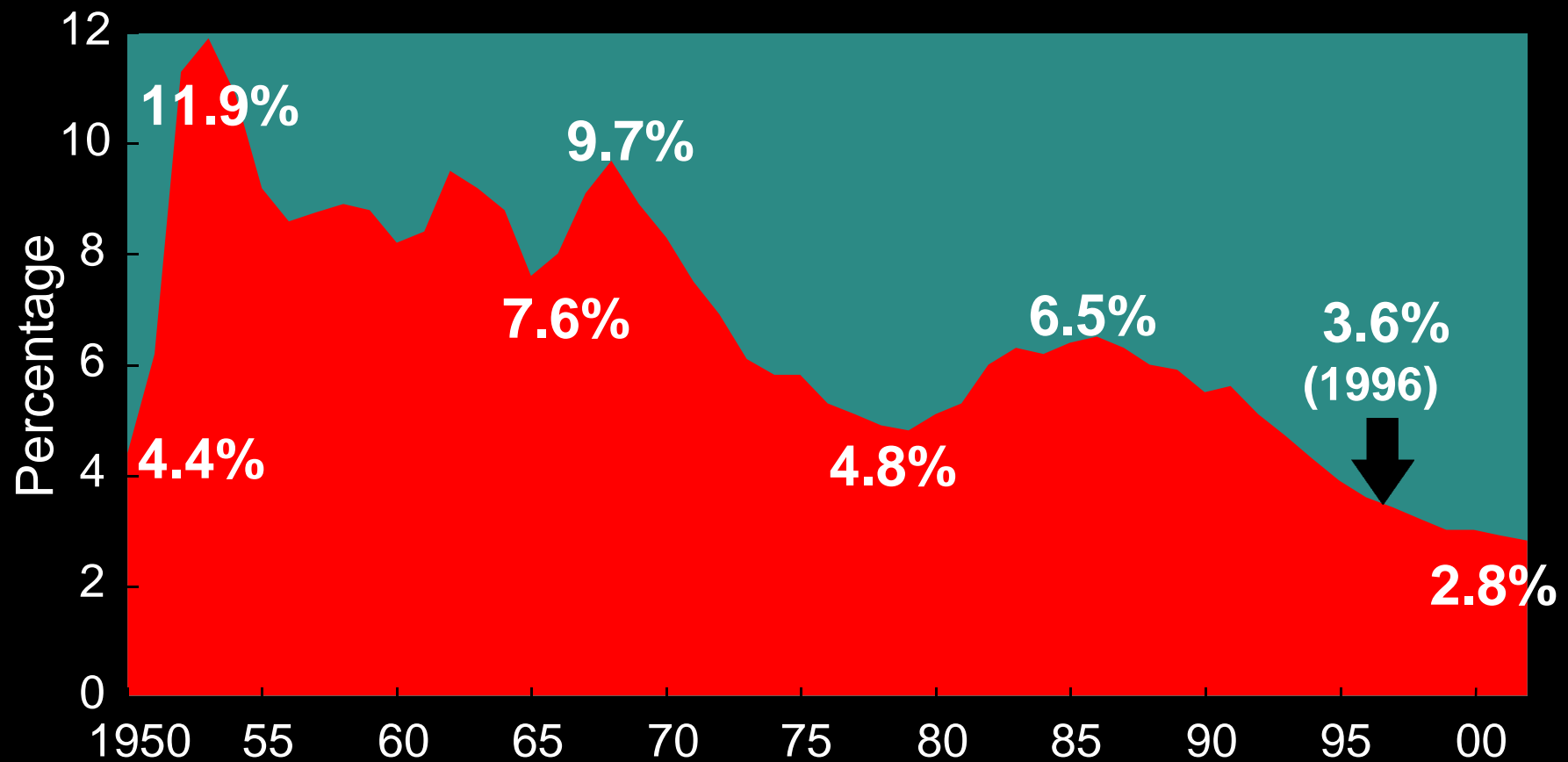




# System Activities

- ◆ Global Awareness
  - Gather Information
- ◆ Global Grid
  - Transmit Information
- ◆ Dynamic Assessment, Planning and Execution
  - Use Information

# Defense Outlays As A Share Of Gross Domestic Product



Source: Air Force Magazine, Date: Apr 95/May 96

# Changing Technical Environment

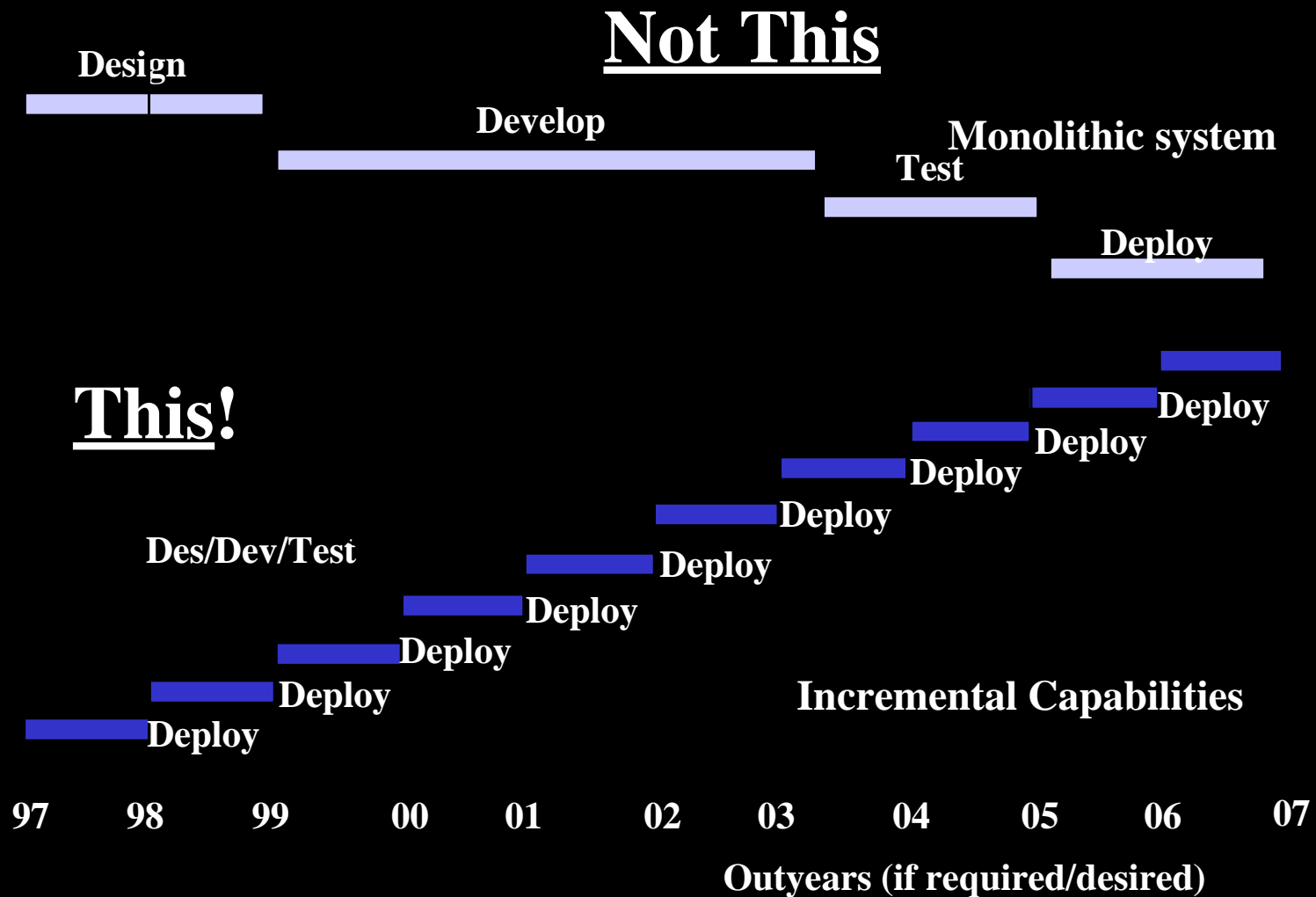
- ◆ DoD doesn't dominate the market
- ◆ Product development time much shorter
  - Two year technical obsolescence cycle
- ◆ Mostly precededented/commercial technology
  - More integration than development



# Evolutionary Acquisition

- ◆ Very hard to define requirements
  - Cannot completely understand in advance
- ◆ System usage changes the requirement
  - Actual usage always different than planned
- ◆ You can't satisfy 100% of requirement
  - 80% solutions may be only option
- ◆ Small steps work better than giant leaps

# Evolutionary Development



**ESC Process**

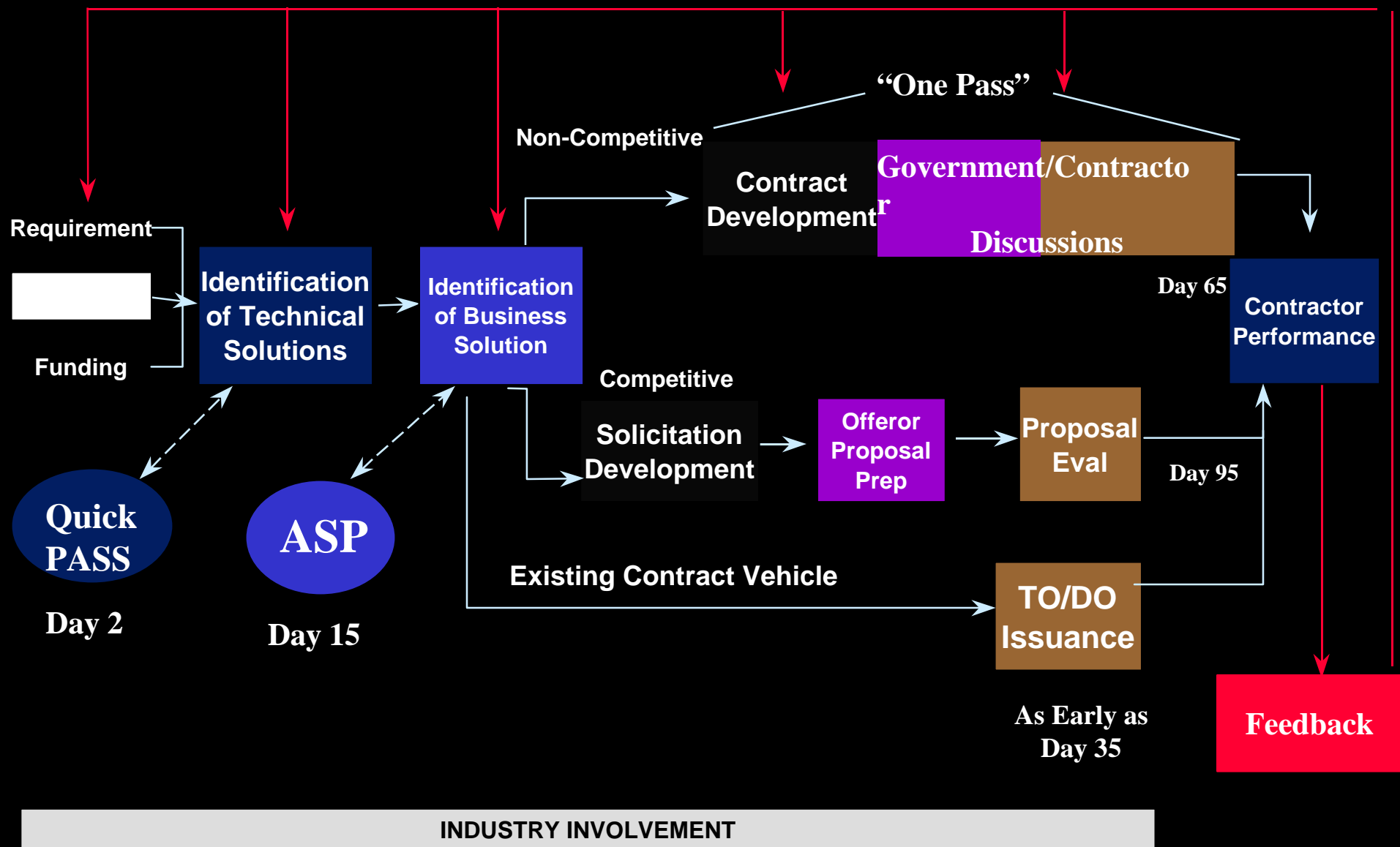
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graph LR
    Req((Requirement)) <--> CO[CO Strategic Business Decision]
    CO <-->|NO| TopOut[ ]
    CO <-->|YES| DII[DII AF PK/FM/MQ Initial Staffing Decision]
    DII <--> HTI[HOW TO INPUT]
    HTI <--> ASP[Execute ASP]
    ASP <--> AWD[AWARD]
    CO <-->|YES| ADO[ADO]
    ADO <-->|Quick PASS Preliminary Acquisition Strategy Session| HTI
    CO <-->|Feedback| DII
    DII <-->|Feedback| HTI
    HTI <-->|Feedback| ASP
    ASP <-->|Feedback| AWD
    AWD <-->|Feedback| CO
    AWD <-->|Feedback| DII
    AWD <-->|Feedback| HTI
    AWD <-->|Feedback| ASP
    AWD <-->|Feedback| ADO
    AWD <-->|Feedback| Req
    AWD <-->|Feedback| PAD[PAD]
    AWD <-->|Feedback| NextStep[NEXT STEP OF SPIRAL DEVELOPMENT]
    
```

The diagram illustrates the ESC Process flowchart, which is a sequential process with feedback loops. The process starts with a **Requirement** (blue circle) leading to the **CO Strategic Business Decision** (grey box). From the CO box, a **NO** path leads to the top, and a **YES** path leads to the **DII AF PK/FM/MQ Initial Staffing Decision** (blue box). The DII box leads to the **HOW TO INPUT** (blue box). The HOW TO INPUT box leads to the **Execute ASP** (light blue box), which leads to the **AWARD** (pink box). A **Feedback** loop (red arrows) connects the AWARD box back to the CO box, DII box, HOW TO INPUT box, Execute ASP box, and ADO box. A **Quick PASS Preliminary Acquisition Strategy Session** (white arrow) connects the ADO box to the HOW TO INPUT box. The ADO box (pink) is also connected to the CO box via a **YES** path. The AWARD box is connected to the **PAD** (green box) and the **NEXT STEP OF SPIRAL DEVELOPMENT** (white arrow) at the bottom. The entire process is titled **ESC Process** at the top.

## NEXT STEP OF SPIRAL DEVELOPMENT

# Acquisition Process -- A Model



# FUZZY FRONT END

## Current ESC Process

# Product Line Contracting

**How do you contract for fast turn around system integration capability?**

- ◆ Compete for technical domain expertise
  - Knowledge of existing/emerging technologies AND knowledge of the customer
- ◆ Three ESC Contract Examples
  - Integrated Maintenance Data System (IMDS)
  - Portable, Reusable, Integrated Software Modules (PRISM)
  - Command & Control Product Lines (CCPL)

# Product Line Contracting

- ◆ Many C2 product components are functionally similar
- ◆ Many C2 program components have analogs in civilian information systems
  - Commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) products may be available & viable for military use
- ◆ Commercial market accelerated software development towards standards-based, open systems
  - Easier & cheaper to integrate than to build from scratch
- ◆ Essence of Product Line Contracting is integrating components to meet user needs

# Common Component Examples

- ◆ External Interfaces
- ◆ Message Processing
- ◆ Database Management
- ◆ System Management
- ◆ Geographic Information
- ◆ Table Generation
- ◆ Alarm Generation



# PRISM Lessons Learned

- ◆ 82% of command center components are functionally similar
- ◆ Majority of command center components do have analogs in civilian information systems
  - 64 COTS products have been identified to date
- ◆ Commercial market has driven software development to standards-based, open systems
  - PRISM integrated 7.3M source lines of code (SLOC) with only .1M SLOC developed
- ◆ Eight programs, using PRISM, demonstrated cost savings of 56% & time savings of 66%

# Benefits to the User

- ◆ Provides early development prototyping
  - Early validation of requirements & designs
  - Risk and feasibility analysis
  - Validated source data for cost estimates
- ◆ Decreases technical risks
  - Proven architectures incorporate industry standards using tested software components
- ◆ Reduces development cost & time
  - Product lines & software reuse provide overall savings
- ◆ Enhances participation by life-cycle end user
  - Insures functional & performance needs are satisfied

## The Future

- ◆ Few Golden Cash Cows
- ◆ More IDIQ/Product Line Contracts
  - More Actions, Fewer Dollars
- ◆ More emphasis on Total System Architecture
- ◆ Much closer relationship between ESC, operators and contractors
- ◆ Annual “Experiments” to demonstrate technology
- ◆ Things will move very fast
  - You snooze...you lose